

## **Human Services Advisory Committee Minutes of January 27, 2016 Meeting**

**Present:** Will Bigl (Comm. on Aging); Ethel Mantzaris (YSB), chair; Joan Terry (Senior Center Assn.); Victoria Nimirowski (WAIM)

**Absent:** Ron Baker (Member at Large); Dexter Eddy (Housing Authority); Lorraine Kenowski (Member at Large); Carol Norrish, (Mansfield Advocates for Children)

**Staff:** Pat Schneider (Director of Human Services)

The chairman called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. The minutes from the December 9, 2015 meeting were approved as written.

**Agency Budget Request Reviews** – All requests for financial support from local agencies were reviewed. The amounts approved by this Committee will be forwarded to the Town Council for their consideration.

**Staff** – Pat updated us on the work and staffing of the Human Resource department. The Youth Social Worker position has been posted internally and is now to be posted outside. The Senior Outreach Worker continues to fill in at Youth Services making her position full-time temporarily. A new middle school group for girls has been formed and is very popular. The Early Childhood program is in need of funds for staffing and programming because the Discovery Grant has come to an end.

Vicky told us there is a local group interested in helping to resettle an immigrant family. She will keep us advised of their plans.

Pat said that the Town is hiring a consultant to review building conditions at the municipal building and the senior center.

Meetings for this Committee in 2016: April 27, September 28, December 14

In response to a question asking whether any refugees are being helped in Mansfield, Pat explained some of the difficulties the department faces when dealing with those who are not citizens of the United States.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Joan Terry, Secretary